

Jamberoo Native Nursery Flourishes with NSW Awards Win

Jamberoo Native Nursery was named as the Best Medium Production Nursery in New South Wales over the weekend at the state awards dinner for the 2008 YATES Nursery & Garden Industry Awards.

The win grants Jamberoo Native Nursery the **top statewide accolade** for nurseries with six to 15 full-time staff in the prestigious awards that recognise innovation and outstanding acumen among nursery and garden industry businesses. The win is the Nursery's second in succession after taking out the same award in 2007.



Located on five acres in Jamberoo, the Nursery produces genetically-correct provenance-specific plant species for State revegetation projects. Jamberoo Native Nursery estimates that around half of all their plants are grown specifically for such projects, while 90 per cent of their orders are despatched to the Sydney metropolitan area.

The Nursery & Garden Industry State judges were especially impressed with Jamberoo Native Nursery's new **water recycling system** – which has seen the Nursery **halve its fresh water usage** over the past twelve months.

The judges found the **plants** at the Nursery to be of **exceptional quality**; while Jamberoo's **staff training procedures** – which include TAFE training, a formal Apprenticeship Training Program and annual staff reviews – were also held up as some of the best in the industry.

Nursery & Garden Industry Australia's Acting CEO, Robert Prince, describes state award winners like Jamberoo Native Nursery as the leaders in the industry. "These businesses are leading the way through innovation, expertise, and sound business practices, to help the industry forge ahead in the future. They are helping to ensure that the industry grows and adapts despite the effects of the drought, water restrictions and other such challenges."

The Awards guidelines encourage businesses to strive for exceptional service and innovation, and acknowledge the hard work and dedication of those nurserymen and women who help gardeners achieve their dreams.

Other New South Wales winners include:

- Ramm Botanicals (Tuggerah) – *Best Large Production Nursery, NGI Training & NGI Export Awards*
- Total Gardens (Coffs Harbour) – *Best Small Garden Centre*
- Mittagong Garden Centre (Mittagong) – *Best Medium Garden Centre*
- Tim's Garden Centre (Campbelltown) – *Best Large Garden Centre*
- Ryan Weber from Ramm Botanicals (Tuggerah) – *NGI Young Leader*
- Hunter Valley Gardens (Pokolbin) – *NGI Community Award*
- Hornsby Shire Council (Pennant Hills) – *NGI Environment Award*
- All Stake Supply (Riverstone) – *NGI Supplier Award*

All state winners will now progress through as National Finalists in the *2008 Yates Nursery & Garden Industry Awards*, to be held in March. The Awards will be held as part of the NGIA National Conference, with the national winners of all 12 Awards categories announced at the event.

The *2008 Nursery & Garden Industry Awards* are sponsored by YATES, with Commonwealth Government support through HAL (Horticulture Australia Limited).

Image: Nursery owners Geoff Bailey & Kate Malfroy accepting their 2008 award at the NGINA awards night

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